Birkes Barker

From now on, all newsletters will be sent electronically. See page 4!

PTO Newsletter
September 26, 2016

Birkes Elementary
Stacie Everson, Principal

Shine On!

2016-2017 PTO Board

Shelley Gray	President
Danelle Gulley	1st VP Membership
Claudia Mayora	2nd VP Academic Enrichment
Becky Huber	2nd VP Homeroom Activities
Judy Megason	3rd VP Major Fundraising
Alison Jefferies	3rd VP Minor Fundraising
Jennifer Roberts	3rd VP Spirit Shop
Vicky Spurgin	VIPS
Kristy Friedman	VIPS
Marci Wilder	Treasurer
Kelly Bay	Secretary
Tamiko Bennett	Hospitality

Upcoming Events

Oct 3 – Texas Roadhouse Spirit Night
Oct 3 – AIM Online Catalog Sales Deadline
Oct 6 – Individual Picture Day
Oct 13 – PDQ Spirit Night, 25686 NW Frwy
Oct 14 – Spirit Shop
Oct 18 – Chick-fil-A Spirit Night
Oct 20 – Skate Night @ Bear Creek
Oct 26 – Nature Trails (3rd & 5th grades)
Oct 26 – Smashburger Spirit Night, 11am-9pm
Oct 27 – AIM Fundraiser Delivery/Pick-up
Oct 27 – Mother Goose (Kinder)

Daily Volunteer Needs:
- Workroom: contact Crystal Gore at **crystalgore11@gmail.com**
- Library: contact Sandra Dohallow at **sandydohallow@yahoo.com**

President's Corner

Happy October, Bulldog Parents!

I hope everyone had a Great first month of school. The PTO certainly did. Thanks for coming to Chick-fil-A and Menchie's. Be on the lookout for PDQ and Willie's nights coming soon!

Thanks to all Volunteers and Homeroom Parents who came to our VIPS Breakfast. It was fabulous meeting each of you. Thanks for giving your time to our GREAT school!

Our first membership drive and AIM fundraiser ended in September. We hope you enjoyed the new product offering and the children enjoyed all the fun incentives. I would like to thank you all for electronically joining our PTO and for participating in the fall fundraiser. Your support of our school is greatly appreciated.

We have lots of fun things planned for October so mark your calendars!! Our 1st **Skate Night** will be **Thursday, October 20th from 6 – 8 pm** at Bear Creek Skate Rink. Bring your children out so their class can win the "Golden Skate Trophy" and bragging rights all year long! We also have **Nature Trails** for 3rd and 5th graders scheduled for October 26th. More Academic Enrichment activities are on the horizon!

We will also start our Texas Roadhouse Roll and Gift Card Fundraiser soon. This is a great time to get some Christmas shopping done. Also, all our AIM Fundraiser items will be delivered/picked up on **Thursday, October 27th**.

Please keep reading to find out ALL the wonderful things your PTO has planned for the near future! Thank you again for all of your support to our school.

Shelley Gray, President
shelley825@yahoo.com

PTO Membership

Hey Birkes Bulldogs....it's time to join the Birkes PTO!

Don't delay – do it today!!! The PTO Membership Drive ends September 30th!

Go to birkespto.membershiptoolkit.com

Register or log in to update your family information for the online directory. You can pay for your membership online – it's only $10.00! Review the Volunteer Oath and then sign up for Volunteer Opportunities. You can even make a donation that will go directly to Birkes student events and resources. By joining the PTO, you help support all of the programs and events that the PTO sponsors for our Bulldogs. In return, you gain access to the online directory and an up-to-date calendar. You will also receive a "Note to my Teacher" notepad and have your family name added to our Shining Star bulletin board. The class from each grade with the most members will get a Popsicle Party – sign up by September 30th to qualify!

Danelle Gulley, Membership
danelle.gulley@att.net

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Major Fundraising

AIM Catalog orders were due September 23, but online ordering goes through October 3rd.
Go to: www.supportandgive.com and enter our school code, 18995. Items will ship to school for free!

Our AIM catalog sale fundraising was quite a hit! Be sure to turn your coupons into the library for your light up emoji keychain. (This is a cumulative sale so if you sell 5 items, you get 2 emoji's.) Sales/orders ended on September 23rd and delivery/pick-up will be held on Thursday, October 27th. Thanks to all of the kiddos and parents for making our fundraising efforts a success!

Judy Megason, Major Fundraising
judymegason@yahoo.com

Homeroom Activities

Thank you again to all who signed up to volunteer as Homeroom Parent or Helper for your child's class this year. We had a great turnout at the VIPS Breakfast! If you are a Homeroom Parent and were unable to make the meeting and have not received your information packet please let me know! Ready - Set - GO, only 13 more Fridays until the Holiday Party!!!!

Becky Huber, Homeroom Activities
bhuber9@comcast.net

Spirit Shop

Our Spirit Cart this month will be Friday October 14th. We have a lot of new items. The shop is open for 1st-5th graders on stage during lunch. Kindergarten students are brought in prior to lunch. Third graders will have a special form that they can turn in, in the morning, since they have last lunch and items tend to sell out. Be sure to look for more info regarding our first ever Holiday Market in the upcoming newsletters. Thanks for your support!

Jennifer Roberts, Spirit Shop
jennaroberts24@yahoo.com

Academic Enrichment

Hello everyone! We have a few things planned for this month. Our 3rd and 5th graders will be going to Nature Trails on October 26 & 27. Mother Goose will be visiting kindergarten on October 27. If you would like to have an opportunity to volunteer on upcoming events or have any questions, please contact me. We need parent volunteers to help make these experiences a success for our children.

Claudia Mayora
Academic Enrichment
claudia.mayora@yahoo.com

Hospitality

The Hospitality Committee would like to say THANK YOU for making the "Halftime Hot Dog Bar" a smashing success! Because of your generous donations, we were able to provide an exciting -- and delicious -- luncheon for our FABULOUS staff and faculty!

Thank you SO MUCH for your support as we show them how very much they are appreciated! As always, please be sure to check the Birkes PTO Facebook page for pictures and more information.

Tamiko Bennett, Hospitality
tamiko_r@yahoo.com

VIPS (Volunteers in Public Schools)

☺ THANK YOU TO ALL WHO ATTENDED OUR VIPS BREAKFAST ☺
We had a great turnout and look forward to working with you throughout the year!!

Are You Certified to do Hearing or Vision Screening? *(certification is good for 5 years)*
Birkes will be screening on **November 1st & 2nd**. Please let us know if you are certified and can help. We will also be looking for volunteers to help with height/weight, and "runners" to go get classes, etc.

Also, please remember that the Workroom & Library are always in need of helping hands! Whether you have 30 minutes or 2 hours, any and all time is greatly appreciated.

Keep an eye out for emails about volunteer opportunities! If you're not receiving emails or are interested in getting on the list, please contact us.

Vicky Spurgin, VIPS Coordinator
jasonvicky_spurgin@yahoo.com

Kristy Friedman, VIPS Coordinator
knf1214@gmail.com

VOLUNTEERS IN VIPS PUBLIC SCHOOLS

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Minor Fundraising

A huge thank you to Walmart at 8208 Barker Cypress! Birkes will be receiving a $1000 grant this year!

- **Chick-fil-A Calendars** – Attached is the flyer/order form for our Chick-fil-A calendar sale. You will receive a calendar with a card for free items at Chick-fil-A each month of 2017. These make great Christmas gifts.
- Be sure to dine at any of our partner restaurants on Spirit Nights and Birkes will earn some cash!!

Upcoming dates are:

- **Texas Roadhouse** (Hwy 6 and 290): Monday, October 3rd - dine from 5 – 8 pm. Kids Eat Free with Adult Purchase. Tell your server you are from Birkes and the school receives 12%. Mark your calendar - Texas Roadhouse night will be the first Monday of each month from October to May.
- **PDQ** (25686 Northwest Freeway): Thursday, October 13th- dine from 5-9pm. When you order tell them you are from Birkes and we receive 10%.
  Sprit Stick Alert The class with the most students represented at PDQ gets to keep the spirit stick for the remainder of October **and PDQ has offered to give free milkshake coupons to the winning class as well!** Don't forget to sign in when you arrive.
- **Chick-fil-A** (Hwy 6 and West Rd): Tuesday, October 18th, 5-8pm - Tell them at the counter you are from Birkes and the school receives 20%. **Kindergarten Teachers will be refilling drinks at our October Chick-fil-A Night!**
- **Skate Night at Bear Creek Roller Rink** (5210 Hwy 6 North): Thursday, October 20. Skating rink will be closed to public and only open for Birkes students, friends and family. Skate from 6pm-8pm for $6. Food and drink specials are available.
- **Smashburger Spirit Day/Night** (Hwy 6 and West Rd): Wednesday, October 26 from 11am – 9pm. Write your name, parent's email and teacher's name on your receipt **to enter to win free burgers for a year!** 20% of Birkes sales will come back to the school.

***New* Box Tops Rewards**

Please put in a ziplock bag in groups of 25 or 50 or tape or glue your box tops to the attached form. Please be sure to include your child's name and teacher's name on the sheet as well. You can drop them off in our BoxTop drop off box just inside the front door of the school or you can send them with your child. **Each time you turn in 25 box tops, you will receive a pass for your choice of free chicken tenders, sandwich or salad from PDQ.**

Community Coffee Labels

Please put in a ziplock bag in groups of 25 or 50. Check if your place of business buys Community Coffee to collect more labels.

- Be sure to link or relink your **Kroger card** to the Community Rewards program and a percentage of what you spend comes back to Birkes. Even if you signed up last year, you will need to renew. www.krogercommunityrewards.com You can search Birkes Elementary or our code, 61672, to sign up.

- Sign up with **Amazon Smile** and Birkes gets a percentage of your purchases when you buy from Amazon. Go to smile.amazon.com to link Birkes Elementary to your account. Each time you shop, go to smile.amazon.com to make your purchase.

Thank you for your continued support!! All of these programs provide Academic Enrichment opportunities for each grade level throughout the year. In the past, the PTO has brought in Little Beakers, Destination Imagination, authors and Mother Goose, as well as teacher training.

Alison Jefferies, VP Minor Fundraising

PTO Reminders

Would you like to stay up-to-date with everything going on with Birkes' PTO? Pull out your smart-phone and send a text to **81010**. In the body of the text message, type in **@ptobirkes** and hit send! You will receive a confirmation text back. You can do this from any phone that you'd like to receive the updates/reminders. We know there is a lot going on this school year, so we hope you find this to be an easy way to be reminded of all the wonderful events our PTO puts on!

Shine On, Bulldogs!

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IMPORTANT NEWSLETTER INFO!!

This is the last paper copy of our newsletter (school and PTO) your child will receive. Starting in October, all of our newsletters will be posted online!!

Please sign up or update your information (email address and phone number), in the district's notification system, **SchoolMessenger** at: **http://www.cfisd.net/en/parents-students/contacts-communications/schoolmessenger/.**

You will be notified through **SchoolMessenger** when our newsletters have been posted to our Birkes website, which is: **http://birkes.cfisd.net/en/news/newsletters/** .

Our PTO newsletter, **The Barker**, will be posted the last Monday of each month. Our Birkes newsletter, **The Paw Print**, will be posted the first and third Monday of each month. If you are signed up through **SchoolMessenger**, you will get an email letting you know when each newsletter has been posted on the Birkes website.

We will begin this process the first week in October. **No more paper copies of our newsletters will be sent home with our students,** however paper copies will be available at our front desk.

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50 BOX TOPS = $5 FOR YOUR CHILD'S SCHOOL

Clipped Box Tops are each worth 10¢ for your child's school. Tape or paste them to this collection sheet and send it to school. Please note, bonus certificates must be submitted separately. Thanks for your help!

1. Clip Box Tops and check expiration date
2. Tape or glue Box Tops on sheet until filled
3. Send completed sheet to your school Coordinator

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Teacher name: _____

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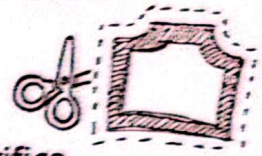
COLECCIONA BOX TOPS FOR EDUCATION™ PARA TU ESCUELA.



Empieza recortando los cuadritos de Box Tops hoy para ayudar a la escuela de tu hijo. Cada cuadrito de Box Tops tiene un valor de 10¢ que se convierte rápidamente en dinero que puede ayudar a tu escuela a comprar lo que necesita. Simplemente busca los cuadritos de Box Tops en tus productos favoritos, recórtalos y entrégalos a tu escuela. Para obtener más información acerca del programa Box Tops for Education™, incluyendo una lista de los productos participantes y cuánto ha ganado tu escuela hasta la fecha, visita www.btfe.com. ¡Gracias por tu ayuda!

1. Recorta los cuadritos de Box Tops y verifica la fecha de expiración
2. Pega los cuadritos de Box Tops en la hoja hasta que esté completa
3. Envía la hoja completa al coordinador de tu escuela

Nombre del maestro: _____

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¡Gracias por tu ayuda! Cada cuadrito de Box Tops vale 10¢. Bonus certificados no deben acompañar a esta hoja - por favor entregar por separado. Para aprender más de Box Tops for Education, visita BTFE.com.

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Join us for some Chick-fil-A® FUN!

Dear Parents,
We are so excited to be partnering with Chick-fil-A again this year for 2 very special things. The students have an opportunity to sell 2017 Chick-fil-A calendars that also come with $25 worth of coupons for 2017. They will be sold for $7.00 each. These will make wonderful Christmas gifts and are great for college students! Birkes will also have their very own Spirit Nights at the Chick-fil-A located at Hwy 6 and West Rd. The dates are listed below. 20% of your bill will go to Birkes, so be sure to mention you are there for Birkes Spirit Night!

Thanks, Birkes PTO

Spirit Night Dates:

October 18
November 15

January 17
February 21
March 21

April 18
May 16

Chick-fil-A Calendar Order Form

Student Name: _____ Grade: _____

Homeroom Teacher: _____

Quantity _____ x $7.00 each Total $_____

*Please make checks payable to "Birkes PTO". ***Order Deadline: October 13***